

Clearwater Man Blamed for Crash Costing Life of Wife

Swathed in bandages, his swollen face a mask of tragedy, Oscar C. Guilbert, 45-year-old Clearwater engineer, listened intently Monday morning as five witnesses testified at a coroner's inquest here concerning the terrific automobile collision last Thursday evening at Figueroa and East Road which claimed the life of his 37-year-old wife and badly injured three other persons.

Guilbert's 11-year-old daughter, Marjorie, told Deputy Coroner F. R. Montfort that "Daddy slowed up for the intersection but I don't know whether he made the boulevard stop or not. Us kids were in the back seat singing and then I heard my mother scream." Mrs. Guilbert was instantly killed, death being caused by a compound skull fracture.

The jury's verdict held that the fatality was accidental and "due to the negligence of Oscar C. Guilbert." Jurymen were George H. Moore, Jr., Wallace H. Guilbert, B. M. Prewett, Daniel E. Evans, Charles M. Law and Ed. Thompson.

Girl Says Car Didn't Stop.
Guilbert, with his wife in the front seat, his daughter and her friend Sybil McPherson, 12, all of Clearwater, in the back, was driving east on East Road. He collided with another sedan, driven north on Figueroa by Frank Mulick 42; his wife, Mrs. Genevieve Mulick, 38, and his mother, Mrs. Katherine Mulick, 67, all of 4217 South Normandie avenue, Los Angeles.

Mrs. Genevieve Mulick was critically injured and for more than a day she was given only a fighting chance for life. However, she is recovering now at Torrance Memorial hospital where her husband is also confined. The elder Mrs. Mulick and Marjorie Guilbert suffered only superficial wounds.

The collision, which occurred shortly before 6 o'clock, threw Mr. and Mrs. Guilbert out of their car. Sybil McPherson testified that the Guilbert machine did not come to a complete stop on approaching the Figueroa intersection. Marjorie said that "we were going about 30 or 35 miles an hour."

Describes Skid Marks.
Deputy Sheriff Alfred V. Eughland, who investigated the crash reported that both cars were badly damaged and Guilbert was too severely injured to give any statement. The officer declared that Marjorie talked freely and appeared only slightly dazed. Mulick, at the hospital, also told the deputy. Eughland said that Guilbert did not stop for the intersection as required by the boulevard stop sign at East Road.

"We could only find about three or four feet of skid marks leading back from Guilbert's car while the skid marks for the Mulick machine extended for about 40 feet," the deputy testified.

Guilbert, when asked if he wanted to testify, said: "On account of my condition I won't testify—might incriminate myself." The only other witness examined was Lawrence Clifton of Clearwater, who served to identify the body of Mrs. Guilbert. Funeral service for the accident victim was conducted today at Clearwater.

Lomitan Wins C.M.T.C. Medals

Awarding of medals to three harbor district men for excellence in camp activities at the annual C.M.T.C. encampment at Fort MacArthur was announced this week by Capt. P. W. Edwards of the 63rd Coast Artillery.

The gold medal for the outstanding trainee was presented Francis Joseph Murphy of 25620 Lucille avenue, Lomita. He also received the John J. Pershing award for the trainee selected to represent the Fort MacArthur camp in athletic and marksmanship contests with other C.M.T.C. units in the Ninth corps area.

Murphy was also given the gold medal for expert pistol marksmanship and bronze medals for the decathlon and the football throw for distance.

Kirby Clement Penn, 1012 Fries ave., Wilmington, won silver medals for machine gun marksmanship and for placing second in the decathlon. A bronze medal for machine gun marksmanship with balloon targets was awarded Richard William Tyhurst, 1677 25th street, Harbor City.

MEET IN LOS ANGELES.
Members of the Torrance 20-30 club will attend a pre-convention dinner meeting of harbor district 20-30 groups tonight at Los Angeles. The state convention will be Aug. 29 at San Francisco.

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1940 Semi-Pro Tourney Will be Held at Park

The 1940 California Semi-Pro Baseball Tournament will be played at the Torrance city park diamond next July.

Losing no time in accepting the state franchise for the fourth annual games from President Raymond Dumont of the National Semi-Pro Baseball Congress, the executive committee of the Chamber of Commerce and the finance committee of the city council joined this week in recommending that Torrance again be host to the series which proved so successful last month.

Directors of the Chamber of Commerce are expected to ratify the move to acquire the 1940 games at their meeting next Monday. Dale Riley will serve as state commissioner, having full charge of the tourney. He will be assisted by a committee yet to be selected.

Seek District Tourneys.
Acceptance of President Dumont's offer to give Torrance the state franchise again next year was acknowledged yesterday when Secretary L. J. Gilmeister of the chamber body here endorsed Dumont's check for \$50, received for compliance with every rule during the 1939 series, and returning it to Wichita for the 1940 performance bond.

Riley made a number of suggestions to the chamber's executive committee and the council's finance committee regarding the 1940 series. He proposed improvements in the ball park, particularly in regard to dressing rooms for the teams, and said that the seating capacity should be increased.

"We should start next year with the attendance we had for the closing games," Riley declared. "I believe that the 1940 tournament will prove an even bigger attraction than the series which ended here July 31. I also think we should try and interest several other localities in Southern and Central California in holding district tournaments. The winners from those games then would be qualified to enter the state finals here."

Missing Boys Return; Had Jobs in Sequoia

Late Friday afternoon, Walton L. Stowell, 15, of 2310 239th street, and Arthur F. Wiechman, 14, of 23823 Narbonne avenue, returned to their homes after running off for a "vacation" at Yosemite and Sequoia National Parks July 29.

Parents of the runaways, who caused police to send out a state-wide teletype report of their absence, promptly began planning suitable chastisement, according to Probation Officer Harry Slover. The boys claimed to have found work in Sequoia and were self-supporting during their absence. They had \$15 when they left and they still had that fund on their return, according to Slover.

Permit Contractor to Break Setback

Permission to build a single family dwelling on the northeast corner of Acacia and Maricopa street set back only eight feet (instead of the required 10) was granted Ed G. Neess, building contractor, by the city council Tuesday night.

Noted Swiss Financier Visits Cousin Here Sunday

One of Switzerland's outstanding banking and finance authorities, Dr. Max Weber, was a guest at the home of his cousin, G. D. Weber of 1903 Andrews avenue Sunday. Dr. Weber and his wife, who live in Solothurn, Switzerland, are making a tour of the United States while he is engaged in a first-hand study of American banking methods. They left Monday for Washington, D. C., intending to stop en route at the Grand Canyon and in Chicago. They are scheduled to sail for Europe on the S. S. Queen Mary from New York on Aug. 23.

Dr. Weber is a doctor of law, certified public accountant, bank examiner and solicitor in Switzerland. He speaks seven lan-



MISS GOLDIE GORDANIER and JAPANESE CAESARIANS "A" and "B" get names; hold state honors

Caesarian Twins, Rare in Medical Lore, Born Here

For three full days—from last Friday night to Monday night—nurses and other members of the Torrance Memorial hospital staff went about their duties talking of "A" and "B."

Now they have dropped those initials in favor of

Lomitan Gripped by Strange Coma for Three Weeks

While doctors and specialists continued to study his case, which to date has baffled them, Norman Herr, 45-year-old Lomitan, was still unconscious today at the Sawtelle Veterans hospital. He has been in a coma for the past three weeks.

Herr was brought to a Los Angeles hospital from Bishop for medical attention when he first succumbed to the strange malady which has defied physicians. Late last week he was transferred to the Sawtelle institution.

Mr. and Mrs. Herr and their 17-year-old son, Barton, rented their home on 241st street about three years ago and went to Bishop where Herr was foreman on a government project. He is a World War veteran.

If Dog Bites Postman It'll Be Expensive

All dogs in Torrance better take a second look if they get the urge to take a few nips out of some human legs hereafter. The second look should be given to determine whether or not the legs belong to a mail carrier.

If the city's canine population doesn't indulge in that all-important second look, its offending members run the risk of getting their ears knocked back—and if their owners don't do it, Uncle Sam will.

Postmaster Earl Conner revealed this week that he is ready to demand compensation from owners of nipping dogs for time lost and injuries sustained by postmen assaulted by unfriendly pooches.

Owners of vicious dogs are now required to chain or confine their animals if they want mail delivered—it being the theory of the Postal department that letter carriers are not obligated to deliver mail in places where hungry hounds are waiting to leap at them.

Barnsdall Oil Leases in Gardena

The Barnsdall Oil company has recorded a 20-year lease on a five-acre tract in the Gardena tract, according to records in the county recorder's office. The land was leased from the K. P. H. Royalty company.

Merchants' Unit Picks Leaders for New Term

Election of an executive committee to steer the organization during the next 12 months and preliminary consideration of the Christmas decorations project featured the dinner meeting of the Torrance Retail Merchant association Tuesday night at Daniels' club. Thirty-eight local business men and women attended.

The new executive committee is composed of Hillman R. Lee, manager of J. C. Penney Company store; Harry M. Abramson, of the National Home Appliance company; E. A. McBride of Ben and Mac's service station; Paul Ennis, manager of the Cornet 5-10-25c store, and George H. Moore, Jr., owner of Moore's Hardware store. They will meet in the near future to elect a president and secretary.

President Peckham in opening the session, urged the merchants to revive interest in the "blue card" method of identifying solicitors for charities or advertising. This method, launched more than a year ago, provides for investigation of all such endeavors by a secret committee after the solicitors have filled out a questionnaire at the Chamber of Commerce. The approved projects are issued "blue cards" which serve as credentials.

Suggesting that the Christmas decorations be home-manufactured, Peckham pointed out that they could be started now and added to each year until the city would be able to present a festive appearance throughout its business district in a very few years. He was supported in this contention by Sam Levy and others. Alden W. Smith also spoke about Christmas plans and urged the new executive group to make this project its first order of business. Smith outlined the Chamber of Commerce's policy in regard to community events sponsored by the merchants' association. He said the chamber, under President R. R. Smith, intended to take a more direct interest in such affairs and would extend every cooperation.

Pay Parks and John E. Miller reported on the progress of the Factory Frolic plans and invited the merchants individually to participate in the displays at the Civic Auditorium, parade and other features.

State to Limit Liquor Permits

Liquor licenses, both on and off sale, will be limited hereafter to one in every 500 population of unincorporated territory and one in every 1,000 in cities, under a new ruling announced by the state board of equalization. A public hearing has been set for Sept. 11 to consider any proposed amendments to the ruling.

The order is to apply to on-sale beer and wine permits, as well as to both classes of distilled spirits permits, but will not apply to either on or off sale beer permits.

'Pencil Portraits of Prominent Personalities

Sketched by ELIZABETH LOSEY

In less than two years, Dr. John W. Beeman has established himself as one of this city's outstanding physicians and surgeons. He came here in September, 1937 to join the late Dr. J. S. Lancaster following the death of Dr. George P. Shidler.

Born at North Branch, Kans., in 1915, Dr. Beeman received his elementary education in Mankato, Kans., schools, attending North Branch Academy and Friends University at Wichita. He received his medical training at the College of Medical Evangelists in Los Angeles and at famed Loma Linda sanitarium where he won his degree.

Dr. Beeman came to California in 1935. Another date that is important in his life is Dec. 31, 1932 when he was married. He now has a son, John Albert, three years old, and a daughter, Alice Janet, one-year-old. The family lives at 1617 Cota avenue.

Also he has taken great interest in pistol shooting. Dr. Beeman has a new hobby now

City to Buy New Fire Truck and Shift Equipment

With the delivery, expected next week, of a new 1,000-gallon-per minute Mack pumper, the Torrance fire department will undergo a rearrangement of mobile equipment in the interest of better fire protection for the entire city. The new pumper will be the largest fire truck ever purchased by the city.

Directed by the city, Director John Stroth of the Public Safety department said yesterday.

Altho the Mack equipment is new, the pumper has been used for display purposes at the Mack Truck Company's headquarters in Los Angeles for some time and the city is buying it at considerable reduction from the list price.

To accommodate the new pumper, the 750-gallon La France pump truck, purchased in 1923, will be moved to the Welteria fire station. Welteria's 350-gallon La France pumper, which was purchased second-hand about five years ago, will be sent to the Hollywood Riviera station.

Step Toward Reduction.
The Ford truck with a booster pump, into which an old garbage truck was converted about four years ago, that has been operating out of the beach substation, will be used as a "squad car" to respond with the new pumper for all mainly.

It will be used mainly in fighting grass fires and smaller blazes that do not need the services of the 1,000-gallon pumper, Stroth said.

"Altho we know that the addition of the Mack pumper will not reduce local fire insurance ratings, nevertheless we have been assured by the Board of Fire Underwriters of the Pacific that the additional equipment is a step in the right direction," Director Stroth pointed out.

Proposes Call Boxes.
"A material reduction in insurance costs could be effected by installation of a call box system for fire alarms," the head of the fire and police department continued. "For that reason, I have asked a reputable firm to make a survey of the entire city that will determine how many call boxes we would need and what such an addition to our fire defense program would cost."

"At the present time fire calls from Torrance city limits near Lomita must go thru the Lomita telephone exchange, calls from North Torrance must be transmitted thru the Gardena exchange and those from Hollywood Riviera and Welteria thru the Redondo Beach exchange.

This long-distance phone transmission materially increases the time from when fire calls are made to actual receipt of information and dispatch of apparatus. This lack of close coordination is a big factor holding the fire insurance rates at their present level.

No Estimates Yet.
Stroth said that a call box system should cover the entire city and tie-in with the alarm systems at the General Petroleum refinery and Pacific Electric shops. He has learned that it would take from 35 to 40 call boxes to give the business district adequate protection, or one to every 300 feet.

In the residential areas of the city, including North Torrance, South Torrance, Welteria and Hollywood Riviera, boxes would be fixed to telephone poles or located at the sub-stations on (Continued on Page 2)

Week's Building Totals \$6,900

Building permits issued from the city engineer's office during the past week totaled \$6,900. The \$4,000 ranch market, now under construction at the corner of Torrance boulevard and Engracia avenue for J. C. Smith for lease to S. Yamashita of Los Angeles, was the largest project of the week.

Other permits were issued: Sidney Challencomb for a stucco service station at 20516 Hawthorne avenue, \$500; Perry School District for a temporary frame bungalow, 22 by 35 feet in size, at 17815 Prairie avenue, \$700; Henry Conze for a four room frame house at 24049 Ocean avenue, Welteria, \$1,200, and John W. Hutslar for an addition to a residence at 2105 Sepulveda boulevard, \$500.

DR. JOHN W. BEEMAN
"flying physician"

One which may qualify him one day for the title "flying physician." He is taking flying lessons whenever he can get away from his practice and studies and hopes to win his amateur pilot's license soon.